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Greetings to Mozambique, Madagascar

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. - Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar congratulated Mozambique president Joaquim Alberto Chissano in conjunction with the country's Independence Day today.

"We are confident that the present warm and cordial relations will be improved in the coming years under Your Excellency's able leadership," Tuanku Ja'afar said.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, in a similar message to his counterpart Dr Pascoal Manuel Mocumbe, said he had accepted the invitation from Chissano to visit Mozambique next month.

"I do hope we can continue to explore ways of expanding areas of co-operation that will be mutually beneficial to our peoples," he said.

Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi hoped that Malaysia and Mozambique would continue working together towards furthering existing bilateral relations for the benefit of both countries.

He said this in his message to his counterpart Dr Leonardo Simao.

The King has also sent a congratulatory message to Madagascar's president, Didier Ratsinaka on the occasion of the republic's National Day tomorrow.

Wisma Putra said in a statement that Dr Mahathir also sent a congratulatory message to his counterpart, Dr Pascal Rakatomaro.

Dr Mahathir said: "Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries, there have been significant developments in our bilateral relations.

"I am convinced that based on our aspirations and common interests, our bilateral relations can be further strengthened."

Abdullah, in his message to the Foreign Minister of Madagascar, Herizo Jossicher Razafinahaleo, said he hoped the bond of friendship between the two countries would continue to grow.

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